

REMARKS

Claims 1 - 6 and 8 - 18 are pending in the present application. Claim 7 is canceled by the present amendment.

Applicant notes with appreciation that the Examiner indicates that claims 7 and 8 would be allowable if rewritten in independent form. Claims 7 and 8 depend from claim 1. Rather than rewrite claims 7 and 8, Applicant is rewriting claim 1 to include the allowable subject matter previously presented in claim 7.

The present application is claiming priority of U.S. Provisional Patent Application Serial No. 60/424,241, filed on November 6, 2002. Applicant respectfully requests that in the Examiner's next communication, the Examiner **acknowledge the claim to priority**.

In section 2 of the Office Action, claims 1 – 3, 9 and 10 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e). As mentioned above, Applicant is rewriting claim 1 to include the allowable subject matter previously presented in claim 7. Applicant is also rewriting claim 9 to include the allowable subject matter previously presented in claim 7. Accordingly, Applicant submits that **claims 1 and 9 are now in condition for allowance**.

Claims 2 and 3 depend from claim 1, and claim 10 depends from claim 9. Applicant submits that by virtue of these dependencies, claims 2, 3 and 10 are also in condition for allowance.

Reconsideration and withdrawal of the section 102(e) rejection of claims 1 – 3, 9 and 10 are respectfully requested.

In section 4 of the Office Action, claims 4, 6, 11 and 13 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a). However, claims 4 and 6 depend from claim 1, and claims 11 and 13 depend from claim 9. Whereas claims 1 and 9 are now in condition for allowance, claims 4, 6, 11 and 13, by virtue of their

dependencies, are also in condition for allowance. Accordingly, Applicant respectfully requests reconsideration and withdrawal of the section 103(a) rejection of claims 4, 6, 11 and 13.

In section 5 of the Office Action, claims 5 and 12 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a). Claim 5 depends from claim 1, and claim 12 depends from claim 9. Whereas claims 1 and 9 are now in condition for allowance, claims 5 and 12, by virtue of their dependencies, are also in condition for allowance. Accordingly, Applicant respectfully requests reconsideration and withdrawal of the section 103(a) rejection of claims 5 and 12.

In section 6 of the Office Action, claim 14 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over U.S. Patent No. 6,753,742 to Kim et al. (hereinafter "the Kim et al. patent") and U.S. Patent No. 6,130,813 to Kates et al. (hereinafter "the Kates et al. patent"). Applicant is traversing this rejection.

Claim 14 provides for a method that includes, *inter alia*, connecting a switch in parallel with a resistor to effect a connection between a capacitor and a circuit. The Office Action, section 6, recognizes that the Kim et al. patent does not teach a resistor in parallel with a switch, and so, the Office Action introduces the Kates et al. patent.

The Kates et al. patent, FIG. 1, discloses a circuit that includes a switch 110 in parallel with a resistor 110, coupled to a line designated as Battery A. Applicant submits that a person skilled in the art of electrical engineering would recognize that Battery A is a source of DC power. Applicant also submits that a person skilled in the art of electrical engineering would recognize that a capacitor blocks DC current, and as such, a capacitor cannot be placed in series with a DC power source. Thus, the Kates et al. patent does not contemplate resistor 115 and switch 110 being connected to a capacitor. Consequently, there is no suggestion in the Kates et al. patent of connecting a switch in parallel with a resistor to effect **a connection between a capacitor** and a circuit, as recited in claim 14. Accordingly, Applicant submits that claim 14 is patentable over the cited combination of the Kim et al. and Kates et al. patents.

Applicant respectfully requests reconsideration and withdrawal of the section 103(a) rejection of claim 14.

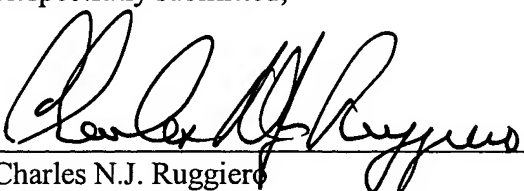
As mentioned above, Applicant is rewriting claims 1 and 9 to include recitals that were previously presented in claim 7. Additionally, Applicant is amending claim 8 to depend directly from claim 1. None of the amendments narrow the meaning of any term of the claims, and as such, the doctrine of equivalents should be available for all of the elements of all of the claims.

Applicant is adding claims 15 - 18 to even further provide the claim coverage that Applicant appears to deserve based on the prior art that was cited by the Examiner. A favorable consideration that also results in the allowance of claims 15 - 18 is earnestly solicited.

In view of the foregoing, Applicant respectfully submits that all claims presented in this application patentably distinguish over the prior art. Accordingly, Applicant respectfully requests favorable consideration and that this application be passed to allowance.

Respectfully submitted,

May 26, 2006
Date


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